1	2
Maharashtra	161.4
Orissa	44.5
Punjab	4.4
Rajasthan	126.4
Tamil Nadu	31.7
Tripura	2.3
Uttar Pradesh	70.4
West Bengal	34.2
Others	5.7
All India	965.5

National Research Centre for Palm Oil

1345. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka had offered in early 1991 amenities for setting up of the National Research Centre for Palm Oil and if so, the details thereof indicating the decision taken in the matter in view of urgent need to improve production and availability and stop forex outflow for vegetable oils; and

(b) whether it is a fact that R & D work on improving productivity of oilseeds under CLUSA AND CIDA projects of NDDB had not progressed satisfactorily, loading to pressure on land and forex for imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Sir, The State Government of Karnataka has offered land in Mandya district for establishment of NRC for Oil Palm. ICAR has constituted an expert Committee to identify a possible site. The report of the committee is awaited.

(b) No, Under the NDDB project on Restructing of edible oil, oilseed production and marketing, the productivity of oilseeds has substantially increased in the states under the project.

Procurement price of wheat

1346. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, while fixing the revised procurement prices of wheat for the ensuing season, the inflation of 12 per cent over the year and the managerial cost of production and sale were taken into account besides other usual factors; and

(b) if so, to what extent and what weightage was given to such elements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) and (b) The minimum support price of wheat for the current marketing season has been fixed at Rs. 250 per quintal marking an increase of Rs. 25 per quinal over the price fixed for the previous season. The minimum support price of wheat has been fixed on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), views of State Governments and concerned Central Ministries, etc.

While formulating its recommendations on price policy, the CACP considers a number of important factors including cost of production, changes in input prices, input/output price parity, trends of market prices, demand and supply situation, etc.

The cost of production/cultivation taken into account includes all paid-out costs as well as imputed value of owned assets including land and family labour. The estimates of cost of production are generated at state level. The relative weights of various elements going into the cost of production would be different among States and years.

Farm products

1347. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite heavy input the productivity of farm products, specially milk, pulses, oilseeds, fruits, vegetables, fish and animal products except eggs and poultry has not shown any significant improvement leading to heavy off and on imports;

(b) whether this represents failure of R & D set up and programmes;

(c) whether it is a fact that part of the problems has been disjointed due to multifarious agencies doing the same jobs without any coherence as in case of oilseeds and milk; and

(d) whether an indepth case study would be undertaken in case of milk projects to judge whether the massive investments made were justified, specially since 1970?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA) :(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Pending Project Proposals of Karnataka

1348. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether decision on five project proposals from Karnataka in relation to watershed management, Biotech, products etc have been pending for considerable time and if so, reasons thereof, project-wise indicating when decision on each would be finalised in view of their importance and

(b) whether Government would also support various other state Governments in undertaking projects aimed at sustainable agriculture development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Production of cotton

1349. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total production of cotton in the country during the current year and what is the share of Andhra Pradesh therein; and

(b) what is the running price of cotton since last October upto the beginning of the present season, monthwise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) The final estimates of production of cotton during 1991-92 have not yet become due from the States. However, as per the current assessment the total production of cotton during the current year is expected to be about 9 lakh bales of 170 Kgs. each. The production of cotton in Andhra Pradesh during the current year is expected to be about 12.5 lakh bales which would be about 12.8 per cent of the all-India production.

(b) A Statement giving month end wholesale prices of raw cotton (Kapas) at selected centres is annexed.

[*See* Appendix CLXIII, Annexure No. 25